

or academic achievement standards of a State.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 170. A bill to recognize the heritage of recreational fishing, hunting, and recreational shooting on Federal public land and ensure continued opportunities for those activities; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the bipartisan Recreational Fishing and Hunting Opportunities Act.

My bill is cosponsored by my friend from West Virginia, Senator MANCHIN, and is a commonsense, bipartisan piece of legislation. It enjoys support from over 39 separate organizations from the hunting, shooting, recreational fishing and wildlife conservation community. In addition, my staff has worked diligently with environmental and conservation organizations such as the Wilderness Society and the National Parks Conservation Association to alleviate their concerns with previous versions of the bill by removing references to the Wilderness Act and the National Environmental Policy Act. Furthermore, this legislation specifically exempts National Park Units, National Wildlife Refuges and land held in trust for the benefit of Native Americans.

Our bill would acknowledge the importance of hunting and fishing on our BLM lands and in our National Forests by requiring hunting and fishing to be recognized activities on those lands. We are talking about traditional American activities, and they are activities that deserve the same consideration as other traditional uses of our public lands. Our legislation would establish an "open unless closed" policy for recreational hunting, fishing and shooting on BLM and Forest Service land. It is important to note, though, that this would not give these activities special priority, but merely level the current playing field between these traditional activities and other uses of our public lands.

I would like to thank Senator MANCHIN, an original cosponsor of this bill, for his and his staff's hard work in moving this bill forward. It is our hope that this bill will receive quick but careful consideration as many sportsmen across this country have been eagerly awaiting passage of this measure for quite a long time.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 20—DESIGNATING CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. REID of Nevada submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 20

Resolved, The Senator from New Jersey, Mr. Menendez, shall be the Chairman of the

Committee on Foreign Relations for the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress, or until his successor is chosen.

Sec. 2. *Provided*, That this resolution shall be effective upon the resignation of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. Kerry).

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 5. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 325, to ensure the complete and timely payment of the obligations of the United States Government until May 19, 2013, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 5. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 325, to ensure the complete and timely payment of the obligations of the United States Government until May 19, 2013, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ FISCAL YEAR 2013 BUDGET SEQUESTER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the budget sequester of the security category required by section 251A of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 for fiscal year 2013 shall be implemented as determined by the Secretary of Defense.

(b) REPORT.—On the date of the commencement of the budget sequester described in subsection (a), the Secretary of Defense shall submit a report to Congress detailing the reductions to discretionary appropriations in the security category required by this section.

SEC. ____ TRANSFER AUTHORITY FOR FUNDING OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE UNDER CONTINUING RESOLUTION AND SEQUESTER CONSISTENT WITH AMOUNTS AUTHORIZED BY NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In the event in fiscal year 2013 of a sequester during funding for the Department of Defense by continuing resolution, the Secretary of Defense may transfer amounts appropriated for the Department of Defense by the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2013 (Public Law 112-175) among accounts of the Department of Defense.

(b) TRANSFERS CONSISTENT WITH AMOUNTS AUTHORIZED BY PL 112-239.—In the event of any transfers under subsection (a), the total amount in any account of the Department of Defense that is available for obligation and expenditure in fiscal year 2013 may not exceed the amount authorized to be appropriated for that account for that fiscal year by applicable provisions of division A of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law 112-239).

(c) NOTICE TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 15 days after any transfer under subsection (a), the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report setting forth a description of the transfer, including the amount of the transfer and the accounts from and to which the funds were transferred.

(d) TRANSFER AUTHORITY.—The transfer authority provided by subsection (a) is in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term "congressional defense committees" has the meaning given that term in section 101(a)(16) of title 10, United States Code.

(2) The term "sequester during funding for the Department of Defense by continuing resolution" means the coming into effect of discretionary spending reductions under section 251A of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 pursuant to section 251(a)(1) of that Act while funding for the Department of Defense is provided by section 101(a)(3) of the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2013.

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions will meet in open session on Thursday, January 31, 2013, at 10 a.m. in room SD-430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled "Pension Savings: Are Workers Saving Enough for Retirement?"

For further information regarding this meeting, please contact Michael Kreps of the committee staff on (202) 224-5111.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 29, 2013, at 10 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate to conduct a hearing entitled "30 Million New Patients and 11 Months to Go: Who Will Provide Their Primary Care?" on January 29, 2013, at 10 a.m. in room 430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 29, 2013, at 3 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGES

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Ben Smitton and Rich Vickers of my staff be granted floor privileges for the duration of today's session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Bryan Seeley,